

SJC HOLDS FIRST SPIRIT DAY

Giving Back to Others is Theme of Event

By Crystal Tejada

Say "Spirit Day" and visions pop into the mind of bonfires, pep rallies before the 'big game,' cheerleaders with their pom poms, a marching band and a crowd of enthusiastic students ready to cheer on their gridiron heroes. At many colleges and universities across America, that is exactly what happens.

But not at St. Joseph's College. For those who attended the first annual Spirit Day on September 27 in Tuohy Hall, the activities were very different. Here, Spirit Day meant a non-profit event in which non-perishable foods were collected for CHIPS (Park Slope Christian Help Inc.) for distribution to needy families and monetary donations for Operation Homefront which provides assistance to families that have a member of the armed forces in the Middle East.

In keeping with the festive spirit of the day, other activities were available such as carnival games, wine tasting, arts and crafts, Wii, massages, music and much more.

Spirit Day was the brainchild of Michael Learmond, Director of Admissions Operations on the Brooklyn campus. It began as just an idea that was tossed around at a meeting on a hot

June day. By mid-July, GraceMarie Varone and Ellen Thorne, along with the rest of the Admissions Office had already started brainstorming and putting ideas together to plan the event.

Spirit Day was co-sponsored by the Office of Student Life, the Alumni Association, Campus Ministry, Human Resources and the Dillon Center.

The theme of Spirit Day was "St. Joseph's College Gives Back" and it symbolized the college's desire to give something back to the community while gaining recognition for the school.

The decision to assist CHIPS was arrived at mutually by members of the planning committee; assisting Operation Homefront was GraceMarie Varone's idea after she heard about the program in other communities across America.

Snacks and beverages were also sold at Spirit Day with all proceeds going to charity.

"I think Spirit Day is a great idea and a good way to relax, give back to the community and spend time with your family since everyone gets involved," said Grace Yang of the Enrollment Office.

Music at the event was provided by DJ Royale, AKA Mike Bathelme,

(Class of 2008). He got the crowd involved with popular group dances such as the "Macarena," "Electric Slide" and the "Conga."

Add in a performance by the SJC Royal Steppers Step Team, free photographs and free T-shirts that read "SJC Spirit DAY 2008" and all the ingredients for a gala day were in place.

The raffle also proved to be very popular and some of the prizes were two iPod Touch phones, tickets to a comedy club, tickets to Brooklyn Cyclones games, a certificate for four people to play a free game of Paint Ball, autographed sports memorabilia, and a gift certificate for a free cut and style at Pilo Arts Day Spa and Salon.

The only down note of the event was that it was originally scheduled to be held outdoors on the Mall, but rain forced the event inside.

"We felt that under the circumstances, the day went very well," said GraceMarie. "We hope to make it bigger and better next year," she added.

For some schools, spirit means homecoming floats. At SJC, the very spirit of the school is about giving to others. Spirit Day was one in a long list of projects that showcases SJC's true spirit.



Keith Outlaw with a Young Friend at Spirit Day



Face Painting at Spirit Day

JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR ASSISTS IN LANDING POSITIONS

By Jacki Verbil

For college seniors across America, few things cause as much trepidation these days as the prospect of finding a job upon graduation. The economic crisis is having an impact upon employment possibilities, with New York City estimated to lose 165,000 jobs in the private sector in 2009 alone.

The Office of Counseling and Career Development is doing its part to ease the strain on seniors by holding an Internship and Job Fair on Tuesday, November 11 in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall.

This will be the third year that SJC is hosting the Internship and Job Fair, and each year the scope of the event seems to expand. Over 22 companies will be represented at the Job Fair including CBS News, NY Islanders, American Cancer Society, Habitat for Humanity, Kaplan Associates and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

Director of Counseling and Career Development Frank Latera along

with his deputy, Lily Shmulevich, have organized the Job Fair in such a way so that it gives students a chance to hone necessary skills in order to find employment.

"Internships are vital because they help you build your resume and they keep you a step ahead of everyone else in the job search," said Latera. He also noted that for both himself and Ms. Shmulevich, their first jobs came as a direct result of having had internships.

Companies that are apropos to all majors will be represented at the Job and Internship Fair and attending will enable students to sharpen their interviewing skills and begin the key process of 'networking' in order to find jobs.

Also involved in the Internship and Job Fair is the Office of Alumni Relations. Numerous SJC alumni look to the school when they need new employees because they are fully aware of the nature of the educational experience SJC student receive.

ience SJC student receive.

"Getting students to get a real-world experience is important to understand the field they are getting into," said Latera.

As in any interview situation, students who attend the fair should dress professionally, come with a polished resume in hand, and look to set up interviews with prospective employers.

"Presentation is key," says Lily Shmulevich about what students should look like and how their resumes should read.

"I think that the preparation I have received in my Communication for Professionals class has really prepared me for meeting people at the job fair and I am looking forward to it," said senior Ervin Maddox.

Though mostly geared towards seniors and juniors, all students may attend the job fair and get some inkling as to what will await them in the job market.



Fair Organizers Frank Latera and Lily Shmulevich

EDITORIAL

DRINKING: A PROBLEM FOR THE AGES

By this time, we at *The Spirit* are confident that you are aware that drinking is in the news. Over the summer, the presidents of over 100 American colleges and universities signed a letter calling for a lowering of the drinking age from 21 to 18. This group, known as the 'Amethyst Initiative,' believes that maintaining the drinking age at 18 encourages illegal drinking and even binge drinking amongst too many undergrads.

On the surface of it, a change in the law would seem to be a 'no-brainer.' How can you tell a returning veteran of the Iraq War that at 19, he was eligible to see front-line combat duty, but when he came home, he couldn't even have a can of beer with his buddies?

Does it make sense that at 18, in the eyes of the law, a person is of legal age and can enter into a contract for the purchase of a home, car or boat—but can't order a drink to celebrate his new acquisition? If one is old enough to take on such a weighty responsibility, shouldn't the same apply to drinking alcohol?

Neither does it make sense that the law says that an 18 year old has the responsibility to vote for the next president—but isn't responsible enough to handle alcohol.

But—and this is a very big but—this is all just on the surface. Despite the fact that you can lie with statistics, and even make them tap dance when necessity arises, some of them are indisputable.

The fact is, there are more car accidents in the age group of 18-21 than any other group in America except for 22-25. For that reason, car insurance premiums for drivers (especially males) under the age of 26 tend to be off the scale.

Moreover, after the passage of the 1984 Minimum Drinking Age Act, the number of accidents involving DUI young adults dropped 32%—a saving of over 1000 lives *per year* for the period 1984-2007. That's 230,000 lives of young people that might otherwise have been lost.

On college campuses that were once 'dry,' the Thursday night keg party has become a standard ritual in dormitories and fraternity houses across America. No adults are there to supervise, let alone proof any of the participants. We must wonder what those students look like in their Friday morning classes.

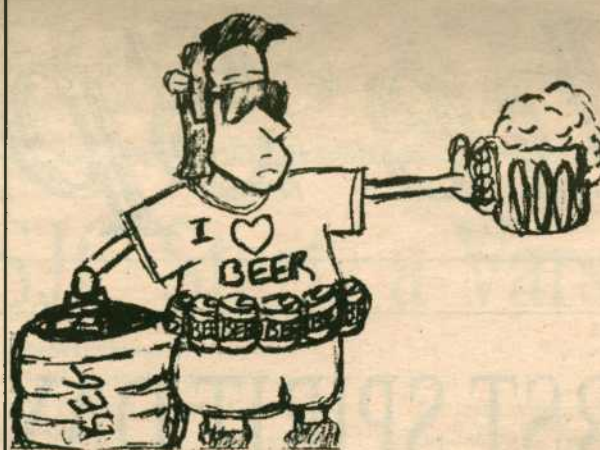
Binge drinking as a rite-of-passage for college students seems to have replaced stuffing as many people as possible into a Volkswagen as possible—but no one ever died piling into a VW, binge drinking is in the headlines almost every semester as the cause of death to some unfortunate college student.

Despite millions of dollars spent by breweries and distilleries in an attempt to educate drinkers to drink responsibly—and not to drink and drive ("Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk"), the problem continues. Young people have a sense of invulnerability that prevents them from seeing the ineluctable truth: getting killed from driving under the influence of alcohol doesn't only happen to others; it *can* happen to them as well.

So how can the two opposite poles of the argument reach some type of reconciliation? It will be difficult—and unpopular—whichever side wins out.

Where do you stand? We'd like to hear.

* * * * *



Hey I'm 18! Of Course I'm Responsible enough to drink!

THE SPIRIT

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VERBILIZATIONS

By Jaclyn Verbil

BODY ART: YOU SHOULD THINK BEFORE YOU INK

You never really notice how just how many people have tattoos until you visit a water park. At water parks, excess clothes are shed, flesh is revealed and tattoos appear in all their glory.

I certainly noticed how popular body art has become when I visited Splish Splash Water Park over the past summer.

Body art, including tattoos and piercings, has become increasingly popular in the past few years. It seems that nowadays, anyone and everyone is getting 'inked.' What once was the domain of sailors and bikers, has now become a populist 'in' thing.

The National Education Association states that "between fifteen to twenty percent of students are tattooed or pierced, or both." That's a lot of ink on a lot of kids. And it spans generations, ethnicities and cultures as well.

However, tattoos were not always so universally accepted. Up until just a few years ago, those who bore tattoos were stigmatized with the labels of being different or weird. They stood out from the ordinary and because of that, they were often depicted as rebellious, mean and even evil.

Jon Anderson of the *Chicago Tribune* highlights this common misconception by saying, "Tattoo. What a loaded word it is, rife with associations to goons, goofs, bikers, tribal warriors, carnival artists, drunken sailors and floozies."

Although much of popular culture degrades the art of tattooing as something done in response to a bet,

a prank or a hangover gone wrong, I would like to believe that many people who choose to get tattoos do not make the decision upon a whim or impulsively.

I hope that people do not seriously roll out of bed one morning and say, "You know what? I'm gonna get me a tattoo."

Tattoos should be well thought out and planned. Remember that after all is said and done, they are both painful and very expensive to remove, should you change your mind. They are indelible marks on the skin that forever change us and can sometimes even haunt us!

I think that along with deep contemplation, prior to getting needles of colored ink injected into your skin, you should have a valid reason or cause for having it done.

A tattoo should have a personal meaning and can, for example, serve the purpose of remembering a loved one, displaying awareness for a disease such as cancer, or showing religious beliefs.

I'm not sure a tattoo of Spider Man really meets those criteria. Nor do I recommend getting a tattoo of your boyfriend or girlfriend's name tattooed across your arm or chest. If things don't work out, you'll be stuck for life explaining to every subsequent relationship who that name represents.

Just have to advertise the name of that special someone to him close to your heart? Why not try an airbrush tattoo. Although temporary, they are an affordable alternative to permanent tattoos that can give you a sense of what it will look like before you take the brave step of mak-

ing it permanent.

Brave? Oh, you don't think it hurts? If you have that ardent a desire to experience pain, let me suggest pulling a fingernail out with a vice grip. At least that's not permanent; it will grow back!

Tattoos can be the ultimate conversation starters. A few weeks ago I went to a local fair and I was amazed by a young man's tattoos. He had the symbols for the elements carbon and silicon tattooed on the back of his arms. If I wasn't waiting on a long line for fried Oreos, I might have asked if he was a chemist.

OK, so maybe I was a bit judgmental, and perhaps they were truly meaningful to him, announcing to the world, "Hey, I'm a science geek!" He could have just worn a pocket protector and made the same statement.

Before you run out and get your tattoo, it's important that you do your homework. I know, I know. Homework! Ewww! Nevertheless, you should make sure that the tattoo parlor you visit is safe and licensed.

Too many of these places (avoid places with names like "Filthy Phil's" or "Dirty Danny's") are unregulated and unsanitary. That's all you need is to tell mom and dad that not only did you get a tattoo—but you also picked up a case of Hepatitis B or an infection from the ink. Wouldn't *that* just make for a warm and loving reception at home!

It's not exactly a decision as major as getting married, but in its own way, getting a tattoo can be life altering. So my final piece of advice to you is simple: THINK before you INK!

View Photos taken at School Events

By going to:

www.flickr.com/photos/rolesena/collection

select St. Joseph's College — Brooklyn Campus

and then select the event you want to see.

See: Freshmen Orientation, Back to School BBQ, Investiture, etc.

Chapel Players Ventures into Social Issues

Laramie Project Probes Notorious Hate Crime

By Chyna Hunter

Once again, Chapel Players, SJC's resident theater company, broke new ground by moving into the area of social awareness with its selection of *The Laramie Project* as its fall production.

The Laramie Project is a play based upon a tragic episode in recent American history. On October 6, 1998, a young man named Matthew Shepherd was savagely beaten in Laramie, Wyoming, by two perpetrators because he was avowedly homosexual. His body was discovered by Aaron Kreifels and he was taken to Poudre Valley Hospital, where he died five days later on October 12, 2008.

Moises Kaufman, the author of the play, based his script upon actual interviews that he conducted with the people of Laramie about the crime.

The play came to Broadway in February of 2000 and enjoyed a highly successful run. In March of 2002, a film of the same name was produced and shown on HBO.

The selection of *The Laramie*

Project was made by the executive board of Chapel Players. Everyone on the board had three choices to vote on with *The Laramie Project* garnering the most votes.

"We felt that the message this show has needs to be shown to our community, and also we wanted to show that Chapel Players could take on a play with such a deep and realistic meaning," said Chapel Players member Jackie Collins.

The commission of a hate crime will come as no surprise to New York audiences, who see those types of incidents frequently on the pages of local players. But what they found surprising was the reaction of many people to the crime.

The cast and crew members of Chapel Players put in a great number of hours in rehearsal, set construction, costuming, and publicity for their shows.

Even the auditions for the play were time-consuming. Each individual who tried out had to read two monologues that they had never seen before.

"I felt very happy when I got the

part because I could relate to the characters," said Patrica Garcia.

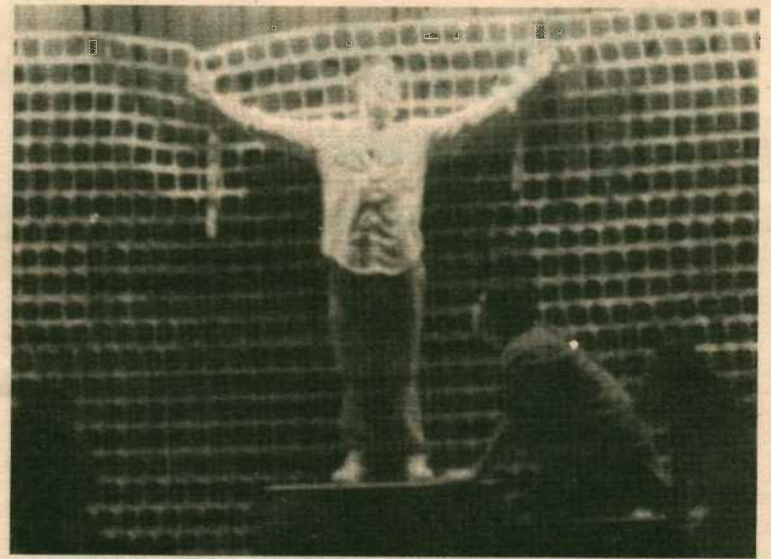
For some of the actors, the play represented a considerable challenge. Shaniqua Smith portrayed six different roles and therefore had to 'create' six separate characterizations for them.

For others, *The Laramie Project* offered an opportunity to branch out from typical roles they might have played in prior productions.

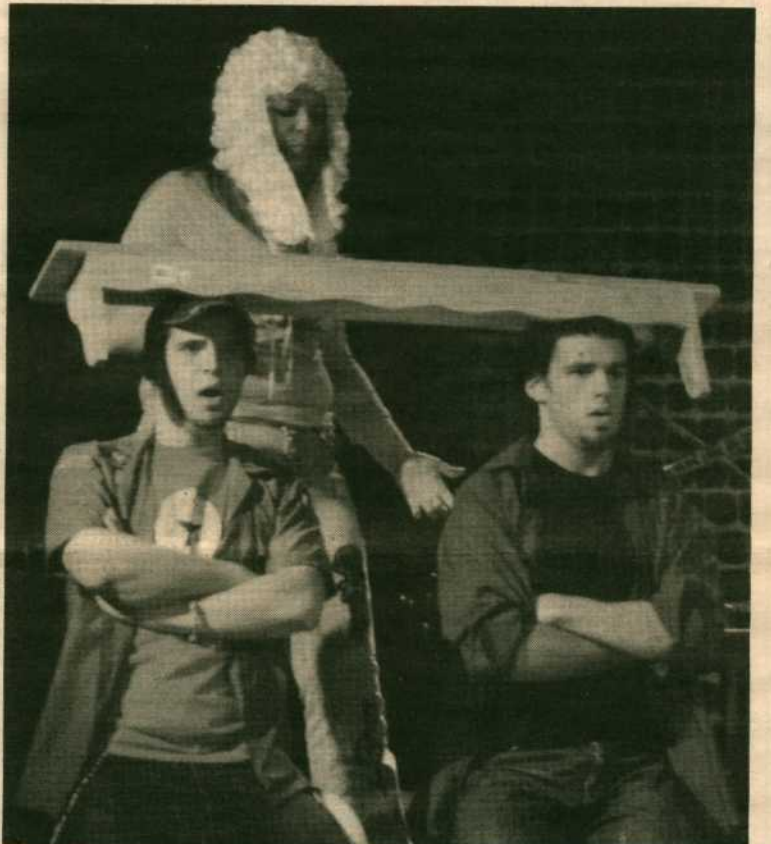
"I hoped to gain the ability to show others that I don't have to be comedic to be a good actor," said Chapel Players veteran Michael Cappizo.

The production was scheduled to be performed on November 6-8 in the Tuohy Hall auditorium. Tickets could be purchased in the Student Life Office in Tuohy Hall.

For the Thursday night performance, attendees could give a donation of \$3-\$5 to Chapel Players as their price of admission. The Saturday show was a dinner theater production and tickets for students were \$15, faculty \$17 and guests \$20.



The Crucifixion Scene from 2008's *Godspell*



The Trial from 2008's *Godspell*

Year's First Open House Attracts Large Crowd

By Nina Zito

If numbers are any indicator, then things are looking up for the Admissions Department of St. Joseph's College for the entering class in the fall of 2009.

Over 450 people including, 250 prospective applicants attended the first Open House of the year run by the Admissions Office on Sunday, October 26th.

High school seniors were treated to a taste of what life on campus is like at SJC, having an opportunity to tour the campus and see groups such as the Dance Team, the SJC Jazz Ensemble and the SJC Royal Steppers Step Team in action.

The Open House was held in a huge tent on the mall in front of the Dillon Child Study Center. The proceedings began with remarks from college president S. Elizabeth Hill and vice-president for Enrollment Management Theresa LaRocca Meyer. Amy Thompson, the Acting Director of

Financial Aid, also addressed the group, explaining to the parents and students the various procedures and financial aid options available to college applicants.

The Student Ambassadors Club then divided the students into groups and led them on a tour of the campus pointing out such important locations as the library, cafeteria, bookstore, Office of Student Life, Financial Aid Office and the Academic Center.

There was also a panel discussion which included faculty members and students who discussed typical questions that new students have about college life. Topics included athletics, campus activities, student life and academic assistance.

Included in the panel discussion were Dean of Students Dr. Susan Hudec, Athletic Director Frank Carbone, Director of Co-curricular Programs Sherrie VanArnam, and student representatives Samanta Labady and Nicole Guliano.

When the parents and students arrived, they were each given tickets for a special drawing that took place during the afternoon.

The cafeteria provided a light luncheon of cold cut wraps and accompanying beverages to go along with the cotton candy and popcorn served up all afternoon long.

The atmosphere for recruiting students to private colleges has become increasingly competitive in the last few years, particularly with the skyrocketing cost of tuition and associated school expenses. Events such as Open Houses are a way for St. Joseph's College to put its best foot forward and show high school seniors what is so attractive about the environment of the school.

The success of these events will be measured by both how many students file applications for admission, and how many ultimately accept admission and decide to attend St. Joseph's College in the fall of 2009.

Student Ambassador Kristen McMaster was one of two freshman tour guides who escorted the high school students around the campus. "As a freshman, I am only a year removed from what these kids are now going through in terms of applying to schools. I was happy to give them my take on St. Joseph's and why I think it is such a terrific school. I emphasized all the things that go on here in a typi-

cal week," she said.

Catherine Muldoon, the other Student Ambassador freshman tour guide, even learned some things herself. "I didn't know where the academic center was until I took the students around campus," she said.

Many of the Student Ambassadors had the impression that a good portion of the students they met would be applying to SJC.



High School Seniors and Parents Come to Open House



S. Elizabeth Hill Addresses Guests at Open House

FINALS
ARE COMING!
12/10 --12/16
STUDY NOW!



The Culture Vulture

By Nick Souleotis

SHIRLEY MacCLAIN: HOLLYWOOD ICON

Any movie buff knows the name Shirley MacLaine. She is best known for her work in such films as *Terms of Endearment* and its sequel, *The Evening Star* and as Charity Hope Valentine in Neil Simon's *Sweet Charity*.

Her new autobiography, *My Lucky Stars* is her personal Hollywood memoir. There are decades full of stories about her relationships both personal and professional. As always, she discusses her views on everything from spirituality to political affiliations.

The book begins with her being born and raised in Richmond, Virginia as the daughter of a former actress and drama coach and a professor. Her younger brother, Warren Beatty, also grew up to be a major Hollywood figure as an actor, director and producer.

MacLaine's first love was dancing, and she took lessons starting at age two. At age 16 she made her Broadway debut as a chorus girl in Richard Rogers' *Me and Juliet* in 1953.

Her big break came in 1954—at the expense of another actress's bad luck. She was understudying Carol Haney in *The Pajama Game* and when Haney fractured her ankle, MacLaine stepped in and was an instant hit. She was spotted by producer Hal Wallis and offered a film contract.

She earned her first Oscar nomination for *Some Came Running* in 1959, in which she co-starred with Frank Sinatra. In her book, she writes about the very close relationship she had with Sinatra right up until his death, loving him like a brother and standing by him in good and bad times both.

In the 1960 season, she got to show off her legs and dancing talents in the film version of Cole Porter's *Can-Can*. That same year, she starred with the entire Rat Pack in the origi-

nal version of *Ocean's Eleven*.

There's loads of gossip about the Rat Pack, including Dean Martin's fake drinking and Sinatra's ceaseless womanizing.

During the 1960s, her career was in high gear, garnering her second Oscar nomination for Billy Wilder's comedy/drama, *The Apartment*. She also took an active role in the 1968 presidential campaign as a supporter of Bobby Kennedy. She served as a Democratic Convention delegate at both the '68 and '72 presidential campaign, which was for George McGovern.

The film *Terms of Endearment* was a box office smash, but it took seven years to produce the sequel, *The Evening Star*.

When she found herself bored sitting around film sets all day, she started to write, and her first book, *Don't Fall off the Mountain*, was published in 1970.

The versatile Ms. MacLaine even tried her hand at a TV sitcom for the 1971-72 season, *Shirley's World*.

On a personal level, MacLaine discusses her marriage to businessman Steve Parker from 1961 to 1982. They had a daughter, Sachi, with whom the star had an up and down relationship, and since she lived with her father in Japan, MacLaine describes the pain of being separated from her child while she was making films.

She spoke candidly about her theories of reincarnation and out of body travel in her book, *Out on a Limb*. Though the book was harshly received by the less credulous, it is to her credit that she never once backed down from her views—despite a substantial volume of hate mail and other slurs leveled against her.

Shirley MacLaine has been a Hollywood icon for more than half a century. For those readers who like Hollywood gossip from a real insider, *My Lucky Stars* will be a great read.

Blood Drive Sets SJC Record

College Community Donates 80+ Pints

By Catherine Muldoon

For some people, the thought of donating blood brings on waves of nausea and dizziness, but then there are others who bravely stick out their arm for a good cause and gladly give up a pint of blood to help those in need.

September 29th and 30th saw the Annual Blood Drive at St. Joseph's, sponsored by the Science Club. Students, faculty and staff members and residents of the community trooped into Tuohy Hall, rolled up their sleeves and did their part for the benefit of others.

"SJC held blood drives for many years in both the spring and fall going back to the 1970s," said Dr. Jill Rehmann, moderator of the Science Club.

The last few years, however, have seen a decline in the number of pints that have been donated. "Our college used to have one of the highest donation rates, but recently our numbers have declined," said Dr. Rehmann. "Last year, only 24 people gave over two days," she added.

Dr. Rehmann was hoping that SJC would rise to the occasion this year, and she was not disappointed in the results of the drive.

The drive is run by the New York Blood Center which provides

blood for numerous area hospitals and health facilities. Technicians are prepared to handle 100 donations over the period of the drive.

This year, SJC stepped up and showed its generosity. Over 80 pints of blood were collected during the two days, the most in recent memory at the college.

Every donor had their own reasons for giving blood, but the recurrent theme common to all was a desire to help others who were in desperate need.

"I've been donating blood for four years," said Edwin Lazo. "It started for extra credit, but then I just kept doing it," he added.

For others, the reason is more personal. "I gave blood because it can save lives. My dad got sick a few years ago and needed a blood transfusion. Now I wanted to do my part to give back," said Margaret Norris Broda.

Here's a sobering statistic: look to the people sitting to your left and right. One of them is going to need a blood transfusion during their lifetime—but only 5 percent of the eligible donors in the nation actually give blood.

The New York Blood Center relies upon the donations of almost 2000

people daily so they can provide much needed blood to area patients.

There were only a few requirements for donating blood: the minimum age was 17 and weigh over 110 pounds. They cannot have a cold or other illness at the time of donation, and if they had any tattoos or piercings within the last year, they would be disqualified.

"Donors have to remember to eat a hearty meal with at least three ounces of protein and drink lots of fluids before they donate," said one of the Donor Specialists who was working the drive.

After registration and a finger-stick blood test, eligible donors lay upon a gurney, stuck out their arms—and in 10 to 12 minutes, it was all over.

Some snacks and a cup of juice later, and the donor feels as good as new. In fact, since each pint of blood can be separated into five components and help five separate people, many of the donors said they felt better when they came out than when they went in.

"Once you save a life, you can't stop," said Matthew Walsh. And in that spirit, hopefully the SJC community has saved many lives.



Donating Blood is Even a Good Time to Catch Up on Reading

Yearbook Gets Format Change

By Deana Elsayed

Footprints 2009 will have a very different look this year, according to Director of Student Publications Dr. Howard Weiner.

Impetus for the changes grew out of a Professional and Graduate School Student Advisory Council meeting at which PGS students expressed dissatisfaction with their receiving less space in the Senior Section than Arts and Sciences students.

PGS students also felt that having a separate section for them went against the philosophy of "One Campus, One School," that the Brooklyn administration has been promoting.

At the SAC meeting, Vice-President and Dean of PGS Tom Travis

told the representatives that he thought parity was a good idea and would call a meeting to discuss the possibilities for changing the design of the yearbook.

That subsequent meeting was attended by Director of Student Publications Dr. Howard Weiner, Dean of Students Dr. Susan Hudec, Associate Dean of PGS Linda Fonte, and Director of Co-Curricular Programs, Sherrie VanArman. Dr. Travis also attended via video conferencing from the Patchogue campus.

It was at this meeting that the format changes in *Footprints 2009* were implemented. To begin with, there will no longer be a separate section for PGS. Their activities will be included

in the Student Life section and their graduates will be included in one combined Senior section.

The next major change involved the Senior section itself. In the past, Arts and Sciences students have each gotten a half page in the yearbook which included both a formal and informal photo. Now, all students who submit a Senior Biography Sheet will receive one third of a page.

In this way, PGS students will have the same allotted space as Arts and Sciences students. For any student who does not submit a Senior Biography Sheet, they will only receive one sixth of a page with a single formal photograph, their name, degree and major.

"I think the changes in the book are good ones," said Dr. Weiner. On too many occasions, even if seniors did fill out a biography sheet, they had little to say because they had little involvement in activities on campus. That left a great deal of 'trapped' white space in the book and when *Footprints* is submitted for judging in national contests, that white space costs us heavily," he added.

The changes will permit graphic unity to be maintained throughout the senior section. "There will still be a great deal of uniformity which in certain sections of the book is very desirable," said editor-in-chief Ashley Pucciarelli.

As a result of the changes, the book

will grow in size and those extra pages will cost a substantial sum of money. "We could be looking at an additional \$3000 if a full signature (16 pages) is required," said Dr. Weiner.

All seniors in both Arts and Sciences and PGS are encouraged to take their photographs so that they can be included in the yearbook.

"A yearbook is particularly a remembrance for seniors, which is why we want to see every one of them photographed," said editor in chief Nina Zito.

The changes in format should make for a more integrated, tighter overall presentation which will satisfy both Arts and Sciences and Professional and Graduate Students.

Alcohol Awareness Week Informs on Many Levels Events Stress Personal Responsibility

By Jacki Verbil

Nine hundred dollars can buy a lot of things—a new wardrobe, the latest electronics, and maybe some of those paperweights students often refer to as textbooks.

Sadly, a majority of college students find a different way of spending their hard earned cash, the way found lurking in bars, clubs and even grocery stores. Yes, the average American college student spends over \$900 annually on alcohol.

Along with that statistic is an even more alarming one: the highest percentage of fatal crashes with drivers having a BAC level of .08 or higher were in the age group of 21-24 year olds.

In response to statistics like these, SJC's Campus Activities Board will host a week-long series of events during National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, which begins on October 20th.

The week is aimed at educating and informing the student body about the many negative effects of alcohol. In

conjunction with the NCAAW, a group called Professionals Encouraging Educational Reform Statewide (PEERS) visited the campus during the week of October 13th with a program called AWARE III.

The goal of AWARE III is to "heighten awareness of the dangers and consequences of unhealthy lifestyles," according to their Director of Student Programs, Dave Balow.

On October 14th from 12 PM to 6 PM, PEERS brought a DUI simulator to campus and set it up in the parking lot of the convent on Vanderbilt Avenue.

Through the use of the driving simulator, students had the opportunity to see what it would actually be like to drive under the influence of alcohol.

First the students who volunteered got to see what normal driving was like. After entering information into a computer such as gender and body type, the students were prompted to enter the number of drinks they consumed in a one hour period.

Then, the students got to 'drive' over the same course to see what driv-

ing intoxicated felt like. At the end of the demonstration, they got to see the number and types of infractions they committed and any accidents they might have caused.

PEERS also showed an impact video showing the harmful and long-lasting repercussions of alcohol abuse by displaying the lives of several students from their point of entry into an emergency room to many years down the road—when some of them have to learn how to walk and talk again after a major car accident.

"It was amazing how even two drinks had such a tremendous impact on your reflexes and reaction time," said Marsha Desrosiers.

In the past, the Office of Student Life has hosted other programs dealing with alcohol abuse, but this is the first time an entire week has been devoted to the ever-enlarging national problem.

"I think this program was a real eye-opener for our students," said Associate Director of Co-Curricular Programs Jaime Vacca-Hoefner.



Proof that Alcohol and Driving Do Not Mix

9/11 Memorial Hits Home for SJC

By Khosnoor Alam

Of all the days of infamy in American history, perhaps none ranks higher on the list than September 11, 2001, the day America was attacked by terrorists in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.

Anyone who lived through the tragedy and witnessed either in person or on television, the collapse of the Twin Towers, can never forget the many horrors of the day.

Since then, each September 11 has seen a renewal of the national grief that date has indelibly etched onto every calendar.

St. Joseph's College has a very good reason for conducting a 9/11 Memorial each year. Three alums of the college perished in the World Trade Cen-

ter: Jennifer Mazzotta (Class of 2000), Paul Rizza (Class of 1999) and Richard Catarelli (Class of 1976).

The remembrance of 9/11 took place in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall as well as in the hallways of the building.

The Office of Campus Ministry was the organizer of the event along with the Campus Activities Board. The message boards on campus scrolled the names of the 3000+ victims who died that day.

In the auditorium, a television was set up so that anyone who wanted to listen to the reading of the names could come in, sit down and have time to reflect.

"Reflection Boards" were also set up in the hallways for anyone who

wanted to write a message or their thoughts.

"This is a day that we can and must never forget," said Deana Elsayed. "Too many Americans have already forgotten that awful day. I'm glad SJC keeps its memory alive each year," she added.

A candle lighting ceremony concluded the formal memorial for the day.

At the same time, a table was set up in the hallway outside of the Student Life Center so that anyone who wanted to send a message to a soldier or other service person in Iraq would be able to.

Campus Ministry also provided a list of all the 9/11 memorial events that took place throughout the city.



The Individualist

By Michael Labeit

THE ANATOMY OF 'CHANGE'

The fact that John McCain is unqualified to become president is self-evident; he's a Bushie. What is *not* self-evident for most and what must be understood is that neither is Senator Barack Obama.

Presidential candidate Obama has built for himself a national campaign based upon the *alleged* rejection of the philosophy of the Bush administration. He considers himself a mechanism of "real change," an instrument of reform that will abandon the failed policies of the Bush administration. While the opinion that the Bush administration has been a failure is one that I somewhat share, it is a farce to believe that Barack Obama represents the salvation this country truly requires.

What is change? It is simply the substituting of one thing or state in favor of another. Yet, there are *degrees* and *directions* of change, from spurious to profound, from beneficial to detrimental. The question remains, do the ideas of Senator Obama represent a rational, philosophical change from Bush, McCain and company? Take a look and decide for yourself:

The overall politico-philosophical principle that both McCain and Obama cling to is one of disdain: contempt for the *rights of liberty* and of *private property*. The right of liberty is the right to be free to guide one's life by one's own independent judgment. The right of private property is the right to both possess and control the products of one's intellectual/physical labor as guided by one's judgment.

Not surprisingly, both McCain and Obama, according to *ontheissues.org*, have atrocious records regarding respect for liberty and property. With a few exceptions, McCain wants to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, denying women the right to be free to guide their own lives. This will encourage a black

market for abortions.

He voted *yes* on sending \$17.9 billion to the IMF. He voted to "pass an amendment that would make up to \$300 billion available for a Medicare prescription drug benefit for 2002 through 2011."

And let's not forget McCain's zealous advocacy for the democracy crusade in Iraq, which according to an October 2007 non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimate, would end up costing between \$570 billion and \$1.1 trillion over the next ten years. These are *tax* dollars, by the way.

Obama's economics are *even more* appalling! The junior senator was given an "F," a rating of 5%, and the designation "Big Spender" by the National Taxpayers Union for 2007, indicating that he is not in support of "reducing spending and regulation and opposing higher taxes."

The NTU reported that McCain has proposed a total increase in annual spending by \$68.5 billion. But Obama has proposed a total increase in annual spending by \$343.6 billion! No doubt, a part of this spending is intended for Obama's introduction of socialism—the very *negation* of private property, into the healthcare industry by establishing "universal coverage."

Obama also believes in continuing Bush's faith-based initiative, resuming a flagrant breach of the crucial separation between church and state and if not banning handguns altogether, undermining the second amendment as much as politically possible.

And *both* men support that sordidly corrupt \$700 billion bailout of failed Wall Street enterprises. This is "change" of the most shallow and superficial kind. It literally represents a mere shifting of the executive staffs, but not of the irrational philosophy guiding them.



Students Wrote Down their Sentiments on 9/11

'Freshman Year Experience' Helps Newcomers Cope Term of Activities Aids in Transition Process

By Kristen McMaster

The first few weeks of college can be confusing and chaotic, particularly for new students. To help deal with the needs and concerns of the Class of 2012, SJC created the Freshman Year Experience.

On any given Monday in the fall semester, freshmen scramble to the auditorium of Tuohy Hall during common hour to eat a complimentary lunch and then head to their assigned classrooms. In the rooms, the freshmen meet in a circle with an adviser and two upperclassmen.

The freshmen tell stories about their experiences and ask questions about the college which are usually relevant to the entire group.

During the first semester, freshmen will attend twelve sessions of FYE. The experience of the upperclassmen who assist in FYE has proven to be extremely helpful to the

newcomers. Questions, problems, even fears are all fair game during an FYE discussion session.

With the use of interesting games, group activities and other useful resources, freshmen learn how to handle their workloads, make out their course schedules and learn how to make new friends on campus.

FYE is now in its second year at SJC. The program was created by Dean of Students Dr. Susan Hudec and is facilitated by Director of Co-curricular Programs, Sherrie VanArnam.

Many of the advisers to FYE come from the Student Life staff and the Office of Career Counseling. The upperclassmen who assist were chosen from the Freshman Orientation Leaders after they underwent an interview.

"I remember my freshman year and how confusing it all seemed," said sophomore FYE leader, Cory Jones.

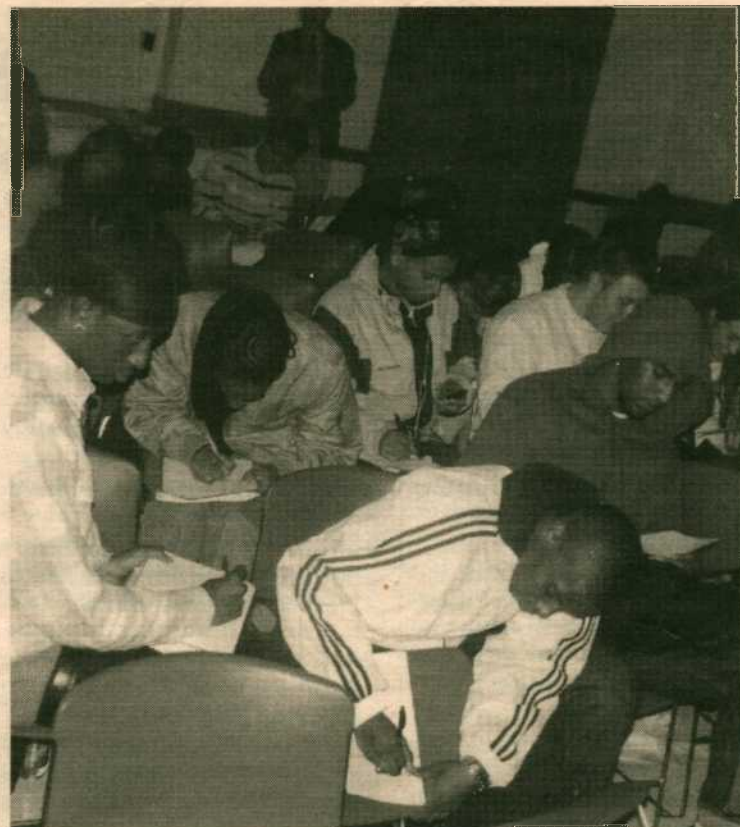
"I think FYE was invaluable to me and I want to give something back to the incoming freshman class," she added.

Since the program is only two years old, current juniors and seniors did not have the advantage of participating in FYE.

"I found the first month of college pretty intimidating," said senior Bala Huseinovic. "I wish they would have had FYE when I was a freshman. I really think it would have helped," she added.

The 2008 version of FYE is almost identical to that of 2007. One difference is that though some of the sessions are mandatory, attendance is now voluntary—but expected.

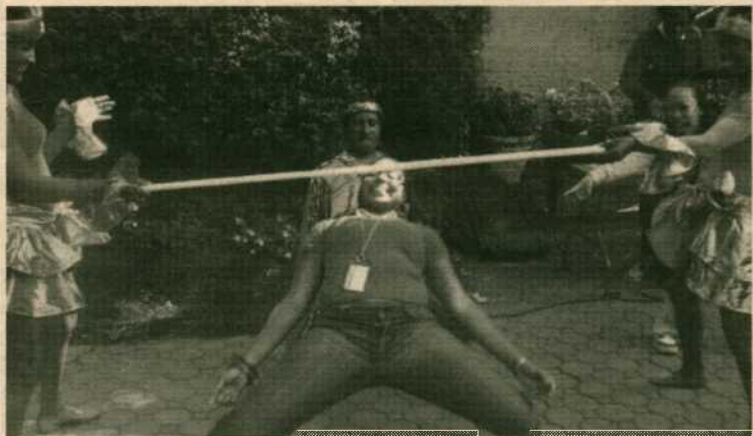
"Each time we meet, the freshmen look less and less confused. I think they are adjusting very nicely to life at St. Joseph's, in part because of what we do in FYE," said sophomore Jacki Verbil.



Freshmen take Notes at FYE



Caribbean Dancers Strutting their Stuff



Karen Merville Goes Under the Limbo Stick

The Caribbean Comes North

By Marsha Desrosiers

There was something special in the air on Wednesday, September 14th. It was a breeze blowing from the islands as the Caribbean Student Association hosted its second annual Caribbean Festival.

The mall outside of the Dillon Center was alive with the sights, sounds and even the smells of Caribbean culture as the CSA pulled out all the stops to make the festival a success.

Each member of CSA was responsible for participating in the event in some capacity, whether it was as a server, a planner, or preparing advertising campus-wide for the event.

"I'm really not that familiar with the culture of Caribbean islands,"

said freshman Catherine Muldoon, "so being on the mall to experience the music and foods really was very educational for me," she added.

Foods such as roti, Jamaican beef patties, exotic melons and even beverages representative of the islands gave those who attended a real taste of island cuisine.

Steel drums, calypso and other island music blended together with contemporary sounds to keep the guests dancing all afternoon.

There was even a limbo competition, complete with chants of "How low can you go!" as limbo dancers attempted to navigate under the limbo stick.

"This year's festival was much bigger in scope than last year's," said senior Lori Bastien. "I hope it continues to grow in future years, because there seem to be more and more students coming to St. Joseph's with a Caribbean background."

The Caribbean Festival is usually held early in the fall term and it is a way of kicking off the school year and the CSA's annual slate of activities.

"We think the event was a huge success and CSA is grateful to all of those who helped out and contributed, as well as those who attended," said CSA president Chad Crossman. "Stay tuned for more CSA happenings in the near future," he added.

You Know When Christmas is Coming When... Tag Day Heralds Start of Holiday Season

By Catherine Muldoon

The first signs of Christmas came early to the Brooklyn campus of St. Joseph's College and they were evident in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall as the Campus Ministry and Outreach Club, along with the Child Study Club, conducted "Tag Day" for the Giving Tree.

The Giving Tree is a tradition that was begun by Campus Ministry as a way of providing much-needed assistance to Providence House, a group home for mothers and children who are homeless, or for women who have just recently been released from prison.

Each year, the two clubs, under the guidance of S. Susan Wilcox, Campus Minister, gather in the auditorium and make 'tags' for the Christmas tree

that will be erected in the hallway of Tuohy Hall several weeks before the end of the term.

The tags are in the shapes of ornaments and each one contains the name of an item or items that are very much in need at Providence House. A tag might list toiletries, paper goods, toys, small appliances or a variety of other things that the residents so badly need.

After the tree goes up, the tags are hung on the tree. Those who want to donate to Providence House find a tag whose item they want to purchase, take it from the tree and bring the item or items in and place them beneath the tree.

Proof of the generosity of the SJC community is the fact that typically, it takes two SJC vans to deliver all the

gifts that have been donated to Providence House.

This represents enough gifts to provide for between 12 and 15 families who live in the home.

"I have been president of Campus Ministry for two years and it has been a tradition that lets us feel good about giving back to others," said Shaniqua Smith. "We are so blessed, we have so much, and all the people at Providence House want are the very basics to get by on," she added.

This year's tag day is Wednesday, November 5th during common hour. Anyone who wants to participate is welcome; a student need not be a member of the Child Study Club or Campus Ministry to help out on Tag Day.

**Have a Happy and Safe
Thanksgiving
From the Staff of
"The Spirit"**

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

Should the drinking age be lowered to 18?

We should be allowed to drink at 18 because it is a matter of personal maturity.

— **Nathalie Rigaud**

No, because 18 year olds are not mature enough yet and still in that immature state of high school. They haven't established who they are yet.

— **Wendell Manifold**

Yes, because so many other countries permit people to drink when they are younger.

— **Shilio Kunihiro**

No, because 18 years olds shouldn't be drinking at all for the simple fact that they aren't biologically developed enough to handle the stress of drinking.

— **Joe Sanchez**

No, because not everyone under 21 knows how to drink accordingly and responsibly.

— **Whynee Ganthier**

No, because I don't think 18 year olds are responsible enough as a 21 year old is, who have gone through the college experience.

— **Bryan Rozanski**

In a way yes, because I feel we wouldn't have so many problems with alcohol abuse under 21 if teenagers were able to drink legally.

— **Michele Corsetti**

No, because I don't think at 18 many are wise enough to know when they have reached their drinking limit.

— **Huldah Charles**

If we are allowed to vote at 18, we should be allowed to drink at 18.

— **Ann Marie Frulio**

Yes, because if we can get married, serve our country and buy lottery tickets, we should be able to drink at 18.

— **Grace Ferrera**

No, because not a lot of 18 year olds know how to act when they have alcohol in their system.

— **Kevin Valdez**

No, because I feel alcohol negatively influences teens to commit violent acts and drive while intoxicated which can jeopardize other lives.

— **Antoine Forehand**

Midday Madness Comes to SJC

By Nina Zito

There's a chill in the autumn air and the days have grown shorter—both signs that it's almost time for the beginning of the varsity men's and women's basketball seasons to begin—and that means it's also time for Midday Madness.

Tuesday, November 4th during common hour marks the annual campus hoedown known as Midday Madness. Inspired by Midnight Madness, which is held on large university campuses, Midday Madness is an opportunity to introduce the Men's and Women's varsity basketball teams to the college community.

Since SJC has no field house, all home games for both teams take place at Brooklyn Tech High School several blocks from the campus. An on-campus field house would be a way to have many more students attend home games.

Midday Madness is the answer to the problem. Students gather in the gym by the lockers, look down onto the court and cheer each individual athlete as they are introduced.

"Brooklyn Tech High School provides much better facilities and opportunities for the athletic department," said SJC Athletic Director

Frank Carbone.

In addition to the introduction of the basketball players, there will be performances by both the SJC Dance Team and the SJC Royal Steppers Step Team, both of which perform at Bears home games.

"I look forward to Midday Madness every year," said Corinna Estevez. "Even though we are a small school, days like this really show how much spirit we really have," she added.

As in previous years, there will be games, contests and prizes for those who attend, with Coach Carbone serv-

ing as Master of Ceremonies.

"As a member of the Basketball Team, it makes me feel good to hear my friends and classmates cheering when my number is called and I am introduced," said Ervin Maddox. "A school doesn't have to be big to feel big time," he added.

Traditionally, Midday Madness has been one of the major campus events of the fall semester. Coach Carbone, the 'Father' of Midday Madness, always comes up with a few surprises each year and 2008 looks like it will be more of the same.



Team Members Introduced at 2008 Midday Madness

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

To date, no one has claimed the \$25 gift card to Best Buy by answering all the College Knowledge questions correctly. But there's still time! Without googling, see how you do on this test of general knowledge and be the first to turn it in correctly in Room 607, St. Angela Hall to claim your prize.

1. In what speech by Abraham Lincoln to we find the phrase, "With Malice toward none, with charity to all....?"
2. Who managed the New York Giants for 29 years, winning 10 pennants and 3 World Series?
3. During WWII, what did the acronym SHAEF stand for?
4. What condition does a person have if they are afraid of open spaces?
5. What is the closest neighboring galaxy to our own Milky Way?
6. Who was the head of the Manhattan Project, the project that constructed the first atomic bomb?
7. What is the motto of the United States Coast Guard?
8. What composer was known as the "Waltz King?"
9. Who is the only American president to serve non-consecutive terms?
10. With what type of music are Antonio Carlos Jobim, Luis Bonfá and Jao Gilberto associated?
11. What is the real name of the Lone Ranger?
12. With what game are Omar Sharif, Ely Culbertson and Charles Goren associated?
13. What artist designed the colonnade for St. Peter's in Rome?
14. In what battle were the aircraft carriers Akagi, Kaga, Soryu and Hiryu sunk?



THE TECH HEAD

BY ROBERT MARRIELLO

A FAREWELL AND SOME ADVICE FROM TECH HEAD

Greetings from the ghost of Tech Head past, coming to you from the great beyond!

Okay, just kidding, although I was the Tech Head on *The Spirit* for four years. I graduated in June of 2008 and am probably working in a cubical at some company as we speak.

Truth is, I really enjoyed writing my column and I wanted to give some advice as an alumnus to students who are new to SJC. Here are some things you will need to know about technology around the school.

1) Every classroom at the college is a SMART classroom. This means that there is a computer, DVD/VHS player and an audio system at the front desk, and a projector to display the computer screen and videos on the white board. Don't bother to bring your game console to school; the projector and other gadgets are strictly for educational purposes.

2) Learn your email log in name and password; this is the first letter of your first name, your last name for used ID, and 6 digit birthday (MM/DD/YY) for the password. This will let you log into your email as well as Blackboard, the website you will use from time to time for classes, off-campus library web resource access and hotspot log-in, which I will talk about next.

3) There are two buildings with wireless access, Tuohy Hall and McEntegart Hall. Your email address and password will log you in. To get

on, turn on your computer and wireless connection. Look for 'sjc-public' and then open a browser (like Internet Explorer or Firefox. AOL and things like that will not work). A page will pop up with the SJC logo, asking for your log-in information. Enter your user name and password and you'll be online and surfing the net.

4) There are three computer labs, all in the library. One on the second floor, two on the third. There are also computers in the main library area and all the computers are open to use by all students, be it for work, or if you have some free time to play. One suggestion: get a flash drive; you will need it. Once a computer is shut off, all the data you saved on there is deleted as the computers have a program that resets to a previous state set up by the IT Department.

5) Speaking of the IT Department, they are also located in the library building on the second floor, right across from the elevator. They will help you with any problems you have with the computers, email, or any school equipment.

That's about all the basics I can think of right now. If you have questions, IT will be there to help you.

Anyway, my column will live on in the persona of Tech Head 1.5, who will be occupying this space as soon as someone steps forward, admits to being a tech geek, and volunteers to continue the tradition begun four years ago.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPORTS



ALL SPORTS ALL THE TIME

By Przemek Kudia

FAREWELL TO THE GREATEST PLACE IN SPORTS

It has been called "the cathedral" of baseball, a shrine to the very game itself—and for good reasons.

Babe Ruth hit a home run in the very first game at Yankee Stadium on April 18, 1923 in a 4-1 victory over the Boston Red Sox., and over the next 85 years, "The House that Ruth Built" has been more than just a ballpark; it has been an iconic American landmark.

The big ballpark in the Bronx, as Red Barber used to call it, has been the site of NFL championship games—including the legendary 1958 contest between the New York Giants and the Baltimore Colts, regarded by many as the greatest game ever played.

There were also soccer games with Pele and the New York Cosmos, papal masses, a Nelson Mandela rally and sold out rock concerts.

More than anything, though, the great old arena has been the home to some of baseball's biggest moments. Yankee Stadium has hosted 100 World Series games, including 9 of New York's 26 championship clinchers, 11 no-hitters, three of baseball's 17 perfect games, Roger Maris' 61st home run, Lou Gehrig's tragic "Luckiest Man in the World" speech, and countless other legendary moments between the lines.

"I believe it's the most important sports venue in the whole world," said former mayor and renowned New York Yankee fan Rudy Giuliani. "I don't think there's any sports venue that has more history than Yankee Stadium," he added.

The new Yankee Stadium, a \$1.3 billion facility rising across the street from the current park, is set to open next spring. On Sunday, September 21st, the Yankees offered ticket holders one last chance to pay homage to the venerable shrine.

The gates opened seven hours before the first pitch of that last home game, and fans were permitted to walk on the field before a pre-game ceremony honoring the stadium's rich history. Such immortals as Yogi Berra, Whitey Ford,

Goose Gossage and Bernie Williams were amongst the former stars who participated in the ceremonies.

"You get a feeling it's baseball when you walk into this place," said former Yankee Paul O'Neill, who won four World Series titles with New York and who now works for the team as a broadcaster. "You can go to brand-new ballparks that have every feature in the world, but you don't get that feeling and the smell that you get in this place of baseball," he added.

The Yankees had made 13 consecutive playoffs—one shy of the record held by Atlanta between 1991 and 2005. The string came to an end this year. But even though they are not in the playoffs, the final game was handed over to Andy Pettite, a major role player on all four Yankees World Championship teams from 1996-2000. In 2001, he was the ALCS MVP.

Last year, Webster Hall in Manhattan was declared a historical landmark by New York City. With that status, it cannot even be remodeled without permission of a commission of prominent New Yorkers.

Webster Hall? It's a dance palace and it hosts Iron Chef competitions. And yet, it is a landmark.

Was there ever a more deserving site in New York City for landmark status than Yankee Stadium? But since it is all about money, the answer is 'no,' and so the cathedral must succumb to the wrecking ball.

It almost seems sacrilegious. It could have been converted into a sports museum on the inside and left as a playing field for high school or college sports.

Instead, Yankee Stadium will go the way of Ebbets Field, the Polo Grounds and Shea Stadium: it will be turned to rubble and carted away like so much refuse.

And no matter how state-of-the-art the new Yankee Stadium will be, the innumerable ghosts who inhabited the original will never move over to the new park.

It would be too sad for them to think what had happened to their home—and what it had been replaced with.

SJC Starts a Varsity Golf Team

By Robert Quinn

Golf! They play it from Korea to Kuala Lumpur; from Moldavia to Mali; from Sweden to South Africa—and all points in between.

But on too many college campuses across America, golf exists in the shadows of the major sports like football and basketball. This is not surprising, since at a major university, the football program brings in enough money to fund all the other athletic teams combined.

But the Athletic Department of SJC is hoping to change student perception of the game with the creation of a new golf team.

Unlike at other colleges where golfers are recruited and offered large scholarships, the golfers at SJC are all volunteers and some have absolutely no experience with the game. The new golf club is allowing players of all skill levels to join and compete in hopes that the interest will swell throughout the student population.

The new coach of the golf team is Anthony Macapugay, who also serves

at SJC as the Sports Information Director.

The team will practice at various courses including Forest Park, Dyker Beach and the driving range at the Brooklyn Golf Center. The unofficial home course for the club will be at Dyker Beach.

Most of the club members are novices, having either never played a regulation course or having played only a few times. Though most of the members have their own clubs, the college will provide clubs for those who do not have a set.

The school will also cover greens fees and other golf-related expenses such as travel to and from practices and matches.

"This is probably the toughest sport there is," said life-long golfer Dr. Howie Weiner, Director of Student Publications, and a 13 handicapper. "The ball just sits there and dares you to hit it. Well, go ahead and try—and see how much practice it takes!" he added.

The golf season is broken into two parts: fall and spring. The fall season

usually starts a week after school begins and continues as long as weather permits. The spring season depends mostly on when weather conditions allow municipal courses to open.

The first scheduled match for the team is October 21 against Centenary College. Coach Macapugay is hoping to schedule another three matches for the fall season and feelers have been sent out to other colleges to determine their interest.

The team will play a standard 18 hole round of golf with 5 players competing. The top four scores will be used to determine the winner.

So far, there are 8 members of the team, which practices twice a week. A practice tee and net is also used in the gym to allow players to practice their swings when the weather is inclement.

Eventually, Athletic Director Frank Carbone hopes to see a separate Men's and Women's Golf team at SJC. Anyone who is interested in joining should see Coach Anthony Macapugay in the Athletic Office during common hour.

Sports Roundup: New Teams On the Way

By Nina Zito

If there is one thing the Athletics Department at St. Joseph's College is not happy with, it is the status quo. Not content to offer the same handful of teams year after year, the school is constantly updating and expanding its programs to provide more and more students with opportunities to compete.

Under the Athletic Directorship of Frank Carbone, SJC first added a Cross Country Team, then separate Cross Country squads for men and women. Next, a Men's Volleyball Team and a Men's Tennis Team were added, and after many years of trying, a varsity Baseball Team joined the roster of offerings.

For the 2008-09 academic year, another two teams have been added: Golf and Swimming.

The new coach of the Golf Team is Anthony Macapugay, who also serves as Sports Information Director. "Since the majority of the team is new to golf, I want to expose them to many aspects of the game," said Macapugay. "They will be participating in tournaments and competitions throughout the year that will hopefully provide our players with more experience and skill," he added.

Some Golf Team members have played before but are still relative novices; others are absolute beginners. But all bring a willingness to learn and improve.

"I joined the Golf Team to improve my skills and hopefully help the team

win some tournaments," said senior Ralph Perkowski.

The 2008-09 season will also mark the introduction of a Men's and Women's Swimming Team that will compete on the club level.

The new coach of the Swimming Team is Leonard DeVirgilio who says that no prior competitive swimming experience is necessary to join.

The Swimming Team will use the pool at Brooklyn Tech High School for both practices and meets.



Swimmer Kristen McMaster

"I was a member of the swim team in high school, but I am really looking forward to competing on the collegiate level for St. Joseph's," said freshman Kristen McMasters.

This year at SJC there is a record 130 students participating in athletics. With the increased demand for proper training facilities, an SJC on campus field house takes on a new level of importance.

"The on campus field house is a priority for our athletic department.

More than ever, it is a necessity that our teams have an adequate place to train, practice and play," said Athletic Director Carbone. "I hope our dreams become a reality and the construction plans for the field house are soon underway," he added.

The Athletics Department has even recruited eleven new baseball players for the fledgling team.

"We have six players from Xavierian High School who just came off a city championship, so we hope to win some games and make our school proud," said freshman A.J. Passione.

Despite its small size, SJC has become a powerhouse for sports, winning multiple titles in Women's Volleyball and Basketball. More than ever, the Athletic Department is striving to make sure that every student has an equal opportunity to participate in a variety of sports.

"I'm excited and looking forward to this baseball season because we are more determined than ever to lead our team to victory," said freshman Vinny Passione.

The winning formula for a team is its ability to work together for a common goal and find the proper mix that every championship team seems to have.

"It is important for each team to have chemistry and play from the heart. With the right pride and determination, every team at SJC can have a successful season. If they do their best, that's all the coaches and fans can ask for," said freshman Anthony Langone.

**Like Competition?
Join one of SJC's
Spring Teams
Information in
Athletic Office**